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## VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE PAPERS.

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### From Originals In Virginia State Archives.

(Continued from IX, 368.)

#### CERTIFICATE AS TO JAMES KEELING.

1774.

This Certifies that James Keeling was a Soldier in Capt. Buckner's Company of the Virginia Regiment for the space of three years; rec'd a hurt in his arm in helping to build a Fort, & was regularly discharged at Fort Lewis, Feb'y, 1762.

ADAM STEPHEN.

Given at Winchester this 6th day of April, 1774.

[Endorsed] Col. Adam Stephen's certificate to James Keeling.

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#### PETITION OF PEAKS OF OTTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

1774.

To the Honourable Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses,—The petition of a Number of Presbyterians, Members of a Presbyterian church or Congregation, in the County of Bedford known by the Name of the Peaks of Otter humbly sheweth, that your Petitioners have in time past and are Still Willing to contribute their Quota in Support of the Church of England as by Law established in this Colony of Virginia; which they do with the more cheerfulness as they have hitherto enjoyed their Rights and Privileges and the free Exercise of their Religion as Presbyterian Dissenters unmolested : nor have they any Fears or Doubts of being disturbed therein by this Honourable House while your Petitioners duly obey the Laws of their Country, continue good subjects of their most gracious Sovereign, and are useful members of the Community. And as they look upon Obedience to the Laws, and Protection from the Legislature to be reciprocal, they therefore pray the Protection of this Honourable House in the future in the free exercise of their Religion, which they humbly conceive is well calculated to make Men wise here & happy hereafter; to enforce due Obedience to

their lawful Sovereign, and to live in proper subjection to the Laws. While they thus implore your Protection and favourable Notice, they beg Leave to inform this Honourable House that they find it very convenient to support Clergy of their Denomination by the usual Method of Subscription, therefore a number of Well disposed Persons in said Presbyterian Church or Congregation, have made Contributions to purchase therewith Lands and Slaves for the support of a stated minister of their said Congregation : but not believing their Elders or Church Session a Body sufficiently corporated by any express Law of this Colony in which to vest the Freehold of the Land and Slaves in Trust for the Purpose of raising a Salery and the same being in Obedyance they would be liable to various Trespasses without Redress for Remedy whereof your Petitioners further pray that this Honourable House would pass a Law empowering the Elders of said Congregation to dispose of the Benefactions that now are or hereafter may be given for the support of a Minister of the Presbyterian Profession, in the purchase of Lands and Slaves or to place the same or any part thereof to Interest as shall seem most for the Benefit of the Congregation, and vest in the said Elders and their Successors the Freehold of the said Land and Slaves, to the use of the said Minister as long as he continues in the Doctrine and subject to the Discipline of the Presbyterian Church as held and exercised by their Sessions Presbyteries and Synods; with Power to withhold the Profits of the said Lands and Slaves and the Interest of the Money Whenever the Minister shall deviate from the Doctrines or Discipline according to the judgement of the said judicatures and if the Profits of the said Lands Slaves and money should at any time exceed the Salery agreed upon with the said Minister, the Elders are to dispose of the overplus as also the Profit, arising from the Lands Slaves and money between the Death or the Moval of a Minister and the admission of his successor, according to the Rules of the Presbyterian Church, as shall be directed by a majority of the Congregation: that the Elders shall have power to sell any Lands or Slaves that may be thought less useful, and with the money arising from such sale to purchase other Lands or slaves of more value to the Same uses : that the said Elders and their Successors shall be regular Members of the Presbyterian Church according to the

Doctrine and Discipline thereof, and that they shall be annually accountable to the Minister for his Salary or so much thereof as shall arise from the Profits of the Land and Slaves, And the Interest of the money, that the said Elders keep a fair Book of all their Transactions in the said Trusts and render a just account thereof to such Persons as shall be chosen by a majority of the Congregation when thereunto demanded, and on Refusal or Default to be liable to the Suit of the said Persons so chosen with the Consent of the said Majority.

This our petition, being solely intended for promoting Religion and Virtue amongst the Presbyterians in this part of the Colony, is humbly left to the serious consideration of this Honourable House to confirm or make such Suggestions and amendments as you in your great wisdom shall think expedient, and your Petitioners as in Duty bound, shall ever pray.

Robt. Ewing,	Will <sup>m</sup> Trigg, Jun <sup>r</sup> ,
Chas. Ewing,	George Dooley,
Robert Ewing, Jr.,	John Dooley,
Frederick Mayberry,	Adam Beard,
Henry Mayberry,	Samuel Beard,
Wm. Boyd,	Thomas Dooley,
Jno. Ewing,	Adam Sharp,
Andrew Evins,	John Wood,
Charles McGlaf, Sen.,	David Beard,
Michael Roxer,	Moses McIlvain,
Alexander Armstrong,	Wm. Ewing,
Will <sup>m</sup> Armstrong,	Thomas Campbell,
John Armstrong,	Michael Yocum,
Francis Read,	James Mitchell,
George Dickson,	Michael Gilbert,
John Kennedy,	Thos. Dooley, Jun <sup>r</sup> ,
James Kennedy,	John Sharp,
William Kennedy,	Slowman Rees,
Thomas Kennedy,	Sam. Campbell,
William Cenedey,	Isham Talbot,
John Slayner,	Thos. Wood,
Lege Stone,	Lawrence McGuire,
Adam Linn,	John Beaney,

Joseph Linn,  
Adam Linn,  
James Kerley,

\* \*

James Brown,  
Charles Campbell,  
Robt. Mitchell,  
Jas. Mitchell,  
William Adams,  
Abraham Ewin,  
Jonas Erwin,  
Charles Cobbes,  
Robt. Jarvis,  
W. Tathene,  
John Burk,  
John McFarland,  
Jarvis Jackson,  
John Low,  
John Evins.  
Dannal Gudane,  
Joseph Jackson, Jr.,  
Joseph Jackson, Sr.,  
John Downing,  
Robt. Mitchell, Sr.,  
John Mitchell,  
James Robinsone,  
Daniel Mitchell,  
Robert Hill,  
Enos Mitchell,  
Stephen Mitchell,  
Robt. Mitchell, Jr.,  
Robert Myers,  
James Young,  
William Rutherford,  
Thomas Howard,  
David Harvey,  
Samuel Farr,  
Abel Holmes,

\* \*

Dudley Rountree,  
Thomas Feely,  
Jas. Boyd,  
Thomas Read,  
Jas. Young,  
Edmund Smith,  
Isaack Groce,  
Caleb Ewing,  
James Reed,  
Robt. Irwin,  
Wm. Adson,  
Peter Harman,  
Jno. Patterson,  
Abraham Sharpe,  
Abrah Dooley,  
Jacob Dooley,  
Willia Downing,  
Daniel Mitchell,  
Thos. McHandres,  
Benjamin Witt,  
Alexander Davidson,  
Win. Lamme,  
Andrew Mitchel,  
Polsin Smal, Jr.,  
Francis Reed,  
Henry Brown,  
Robert Cowan.

[Endorsed]: Bedford. Petition of the members of the presbyterian church, praying that the elders thereof may be enabled to take and hold lands and slaves, to the use of the

Nicholas Mene,	minister, under proper regula-
John Todd, Jr.,	tion.
Andrew Irwin,	17 May, 1774, referred to the
Thos. Williams,	Committee for Religion.
James Edger,	21 May, 1774, reported rea-
William Thompson,	sonable.
Merry Carter,	
Jesse Abslon,	
William Handy,	
Daniel Robinson,	
George Dooley,	
Benjamin Rew,	

[This was one of the oldest Presbyterian churches in Virginia. Though Foote does not give the date of the organization, he states that in 1766, Rev. David Rice, afterwards known as the "Patriarch of Presbyterianism in Kentucky," became its pastor and continued in charge until 1783.

It is, however, sufficient history for a Presbyterian congregation that John Holt Rice was born and grew to manhood in its midst and under its influences.

As the petition was reported on favorably on the 21st of May and Dunmore dissolved the Assembly on the 25th, it is probable that no act was ever passed in accordance with the wishes of the petitioners.]

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PETITION OF MARTIN FIPHER.

May 18, 1774.

To the Honorable the Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses. The Petition of Martin Pipher, formerly a Resident of the County of Lunenburg, begg leave to informe your Honors that the year 1764 your petitioner being applied to by one Abraham Smith to provide a considerable Quantity of Provisions for the support of a number of Indians then passing through the Country did, according to the said request, provide and delivered to the said Indians as much provisions as came to the sum of £8. 5s. 7½p. That your petitioner then being about to move and did move to the Collony of South Carolina, where he now lives, left his acct. in the Hands of the said Smith whome

he depended would have proceeded to have got the same Levied for him, but your petitioner finding that the said Smith hath ever neglected to do anything about it, and the money yet remaining unpaid humbly hopes your Honours will grant him such relief as to you may appear reasonable, and as in Duty bound will ever pray, &c.

MARTIN FIPHER.

[Endorsed] 18 May, 1774, referred to the committee of public claims. to lie.

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PETITION OF THOS. TUNSTALL, HALIFAX COUNTY.

May 20, 1774.

To the Honourable The Speaker & Gentlemen of the House of Burgesses.

The petition of Thomas Tunstall humbly Sheweth that for many years past your Petitioner has acted as Deputy Clerk of Halifax County and as such always endeavoured to comply with the order of this House with the utmost punctuality in transmitting to their Clerk the said County's account against the Public together with the number of Tithables, before the meeting of every Session of Assembly; your Petitioner further sheweth that this Honourable House met on the 10th Day of February 1772, and that the levy for the said County for the preceeding year was not laid till the 14th Day of March following the said 10th Day of February. That immediately after the levy was laid your Petitioner made out the said County's account against the Public and delivered the same to Nathaniel Terry Esquire, one of the Representatives who waited in the County some time for the levys being laid that he might carry down the said account, but soon after the same was made out and delivered to the said Nathaniel Terry, an Express came to your Petitioners House for a Copy thereof, the Expence of which amounting to a considerable sum is levied on Robert Munford Esq., who was at that time Clerk of the said County, and for which your Petitioner is liable to the said Robert Munford as his Deputy, which he humbly conceives is extremely hard, inasmuch as he cou'd not make out the said account sooner than he did, as the said levy was not laid till near five weeks after the meeting of the said session.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that this Honourable House will reimburse him the said Expences, and he as in Duty bound shall pray, &c.

X.

[Endorsed] 20 May, 1774, referred to the committee of public claims. rejected.

PETITION IN REGARD TO BOUNDARY LINE OF HENRICO  
AND HANOVER.\*

May 23, 1774.

To the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Burgesses of Virginia :

The Petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of Hanover & Henrico Counties whose names are hereto subscribed, Humbly sheweth,

That the main run of Chicahominy Swamp is the line between the said Counties for many miles and that your Petitioners who live on each side of the Said Swamp hold their lands to the main Run of the same; and whereas the lowgrounds are very wide and the Banks of the main Run very low by Beavers and other means; the run in many places is turned from its Ancient course which is a means of our property becoming precarious as well as the County line. Your Petitioners therefore pray that the main Run of the said swamp may be unalterably established in such manner as shall seem most equitable and just, and your Petitioners shall pray, &c. :

Wm. Macon,  
Peter Winston,

John Chappel,  
Davis Harriss,

Wm. Ellis,

his  
Abraham X Durham,  
mark

Barret White,  
Sam. Parsons,  
D. Trueheart,

Joshua Horac,  
Jeremiah Linsey,  
Joseph Gathright,

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\* Hanover county was formed from New Kent by act of Assembly, November session, 1720, but only the title of the act is printed in *Henring*. The legislature took no farther action in regard to the boundary line until October, 1787, when an act for establishing it was passed. (*Henring*, 12, 620.)



Francis Ellis,  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Johnson,  
 Jo. Pleasants,  
 Dan'l Ellis,  
 Jacob Pleasents,

John Baily,  
 Math<sup>a</sup> Whitlock,  
 Thos. Austin,  
 Edward Curd,  
 Thomas Johnson,

[Endorsed] Hanover, Henrico petitions that the dividing line between the counties in Chickahominy swamp may be ascertained 23 May, 1774, referred to the Committee of Propositions and Grievances.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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## HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL NOTES AND QUERIES.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—Thanks are due to the various donors of the illustrations in this Magazine, and for the extra pages containing the conclusion of the Bruce genealogy.

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ERRATA.—In this volume (XII) the following corrections should be made: p. 179, read "of Lambeth" for "to Lambeth;" p. 180, l. 3 from bottom, read "this abstract" for "these abstracts;" p. 189, l. 4, read "Abra." for "Abrao;" p. 195, l. 14, read "Chichley" for "Chickeley;" make same correction on p. 196, l. 7 from bottom; p. 197, l. 4 from bottom, read "horse" for "house;" p. 204, last line, read "Richard" for "Richmond;" p. 259, Dillon's letter should be dated 1796; at end of Moravian Diaries, p. 281, read "concluded" instead of "to be continued."

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CORRECTIONS.—In the last issue of the Magazine, two errors occur in connection with the Moravian Diaries. The surname given as Heckemoreder, on p. 283, should read *Heckenwelder*. On the same page the date given to the Fry and Jefferson map is 1754-5, whereas the correct date is 1751.

C. E. K.